

it was not until late that his literary prowess exploded on the cultural scene with the publication of his third book of poetry *Below Cold Mountain*. Stroud, who resides in Santa Cruz, California and Shay Creek in the Sierra Nevada, has also been active in the social diffusion of poetry locally while co-hosting KUSP's "Poetry Show".

Stroud's work encompasses various typologies of poetry from short-line form to lyrical prose and rhymes. His work takes readers with him on his travels and describes topics ranging from landscapes to commonplace objects in the finest detail or the greatest abstraction.

Stroud has completed works of great social and cultural importance and it is important that we recognize him for his contribution to the arts. Together with the Witter Bynner Foundation and members of the United States Congress, I welcome Mr. Stroud to our nation's capital and join in congratulating him for his success and thank him for his contributions to American literature.

COMMENDING THE LAUNCH OF
SAEMSORI

HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the Eugene Bell Foundation, the Korean American Coalition of the Midwest, and other involved churches, community leaders and organizations on the occasion of their launch of the SaemSORI initiative last week. By seeking to promote reunion between Korean-Americans and their family members in North Korea, it is a project with potential ramifications that are both personal and global.

As Members of this body are well aware, there currently exist many challenging issues between the United States and North Korea. In the current context, the most reasonable place to begin seeking a more positive dynamic is in the field of people-to-people relation. And the most natural and urgent way to seek those improvements is to pursue the reunion of Korean families. Although detailed statistics are not available, an estimated quarter of the 1.5 to 2 million strong Korean-American community have familial and historical ties to the North. The pains of separation are felt acutely by many Americans.

One of the most unique aspects of our Nation is that we are a society of immigrants with ties to many parts of the world. Traditionally, second and third generation American citizens have taken the lead in advising Congress and the executive branch on ways and means of forging closer, more mutually beneficial relations with their ancestral homelands, and in focusing American concern on the circumstances and challenges facing their former countrymen. In our unique, citizen-centered democracy, leadership on initiatives eventually undertaken by any administration often comes from outside government.

For this reason, I believe that the launch of SaemSORI is an appropriate occasion to reflect on the singular role that Korean-American churches, civic organizations, and business leaders are playing in the way that the United

States relates to the entire Korean peninsula, both North and South. Those who pursue reunion for the sake of their families are reflecting basic American values and rendering a service to the imperative of peaceful relations between peoples of the world.

HONORING CHARLES C. PHILLIPS

HON. JO ANN DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of one of my distinguished constituents, Charles Clifford Phillips of Newport News, Virginia. Born in January of 1921, Charlie grew up in Friendship, South Carolina, where he, like many rural Americans of that time, worked on his father's farm. Anxious to see the world and to serve his country, he left South Carolina at the age of 17 and joined the Army Air Corps. After the entry of the United States into World War II, Charlie was sent to the Pacific Theater as a bomber turret gunner in the famous Red Raiders Bomber Group (22d Bomb Group, 2d Squadron). Like so many others of his generation, he asked no questions and he made no complaints. He fought and won a war that guaranteed the security of every American and hundreds of millions of others.

With his job done abroad, he returned to America to begin a new life and new family. He met the love of his life, Buena Mae Spurling, in a restaurant in Maryville, Tennessee. They eventually moved to Newport News, Virginia in 1955, where he joined the C&O Railroad and worked until his retirement 28 years later. He and his beloved wife of 60 years built a family of upstanding, hardworking Americans who carry his love of country and his belief in God.

This country lost a great American on December 23, 2005, just 2 days before Christmas and 2 weeks before his 85th birthday. Charlie closed his eyes for the last time surrounded by his family. I am told that he left this world as he lived in it, with dignity and honor.

I extend to the family of Charles Clifford Phillips my deepest sympathy and my prayers during this difficult time. I am sure you are so very proud of him. It is obvious through his service to our country during World War II and his love for his family, that he was truly a great man.

I would also like to enter into the RECORD the obituary of Charles C. Phillips.

OBITUARY OF CHARLES C. PHILLIPS

NEWPORT NEWS.—Mr. Charles C. Phillips, 84, a native of Marion, S.C., a resident of Newport News since 1955, went home to be with the Lord on Dec. 23, 2005. He was a Christian and Veteran of WWII, serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps, 22 Bomb Group (BG), 2nd Squadron, "Robinson's Red Raiders" in the Pacific Theatre. The 22 BG originated out of Langley Air Field in 1941 and was deployed to the Pacific one day after Pearl Harbor. He received several decorations and the unit had several Presidential citations, participating in numerous campaigns as a bomber turret gunner. Mr. Phillips retired from C&O Railroad after 28 years of service. He was the son of the late Chalmers Corcellus and Susan Wall Phillips of S.C. He was preceded in death by his

brothers, Marvin, Zach and Wallace Phillips, and sister, Margaret Wagner Worrell. Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Buena Mae Phillips (whom he loved most in the world); two daughters, Margaret "Cookie" Tyndall and Michelle Kellam, and husband, Chris; two sons, Charles C. Phillips Jr. and wife, Patricia, and William L. Phillips; one sister, Geraldine Graham of Florence, S.C.; eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews whom he held very dear. He was provided loving care in his remaining days by his loving family, most notably his son-in-law G. Christopher Kellam and his grandson Caleb J. Kellam. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 31, in the World Outreach Worship Center, 1233 Shields Road, Newport News, VA 23608-2062, with Pastor Bob Collins officiating. The family suggests that memorials may be made to the World Outreach Worship Center.

HONORING JACK FARIS

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, America was built by entrepreneurs. We wouldn't be the powerhouse we are without the millions of people who had an idea, grew that idea, and turned that idea into a business. In America small business owners create the most jobs and drive economic growth.

Today I want to honor someone who has fought for those entrepreneurs. As president and CEO of the National Federation of Independent Business, Jack Faris has been a tireless advocate on behalf of small business owners. He understands the pressures facing our entrepreneurs and he has fought to be certain America doesn't stifle the freedom that gives so many the opportunity to go out and build a business. Jack Faris believes in dreaming big dreams and turning those into reality.

Jack knows our prosperity and our freedom are tied to a thriving small business community and he's never shied away from making certain policymakers understand that fact.

Even though Jack is retiring as president and CEO of the NFIB, we know he'll continue to support our small businesses. We thank him for his work on behalf of such a worthy cause.

HONORING AMY JARED AND HER
DEDICATION TO THE ARTS

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Amy Jared for her dedication to art education. Amy, a native of Cookeville, Tennessee, developed an art outreach program that was recently honored with the Nation's highest award for community arts programs.

As Art Education Manager at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Amy developed a Latino Outreach Program that was named one of 15 finalists in the 2005 Coming Up Taller Awards. Since 1998, the awards have recognized the